

Utah State Water Plan Bear River Basin

January 1992

State Water Plan
Bear River Basin

Utah Board of Water Resources
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State Water Plan ■ BEAR RIVER BASIN

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Section 1 FOREWORD

The Bear River Basin Plan is the first of eleven reports on river basins in Utah. The *January 1990 Utah State Water Plan (SWP)* covers the entire state, but in less specific terms. It presents a wide range of policies and guidelines for water planning, conservation, and development that will guide the individual basin planning process. Section 20 of the *SWP* will contain a summary of each river basin plan as it is written.

The Bear River Basin was placed first on the planning list mainly because of the relationship between the Bear River's water supply and the Wasatch Front's projected demand. Because 15-20 years are sometimes required to investigate and implement major water projects, work began early on the Bear River Basin Plan to avoid or minimize future water shortages.

River basin plans are not intended to be rigid "once-only" plans. Instead, they present flexible recommendations which recognize a need for continuous re-evaluation and change. Because changes will occur, it is realistic to expect them and provide an orderly process to accommodate them. Baseball's Casey Stengel is quoted as saying, "Making predictions is very difficult, especially about the future."

Historically, local water users have played an important role in planning, funding, and managing water projects. In addition to local efforts, state and federal agencies have been involved in various aspects of river basin planning and management. As water supply

demands increase, activities at all levels of government must be more carefully coordinated and evaluated. The goal of the river basin plan is to help direct the orderly planning, conservation, development, protection, and preservation of Utah's water resources at the local level.

1.1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Board of Water Resources gratefully acknowledges the tireless efforts of the State Water Plan Coordinating Committee and Steering Committee in preparing this document. Work was lead by the planning staff of the Division of Water Resources, with valuable assistance from individual members of the coordinating committee. Efforts were highly professional and cooperative.

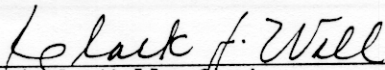
We also appreciate input from representatives of local, state, and federal cooperating entities, especially the local Bear River basin planning advisory group. Individuals from these entities provided a broad spectrum of expertise from a wide variety of interests.

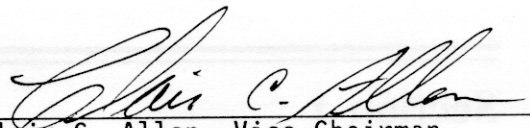
And we extend a sincere thanks to the hundreds of people who attended meetings throughout the basin and provided oral and written comments to the Public Review Draft of the Bear River Basin Plan. Public input is imperative in the water planning process if a successful state water plan is to be obtained.

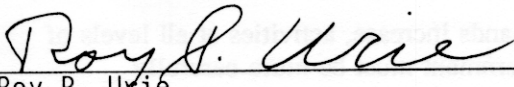
In endorsing this plan, as was the case with the *January 1990 State Water Plan*, we

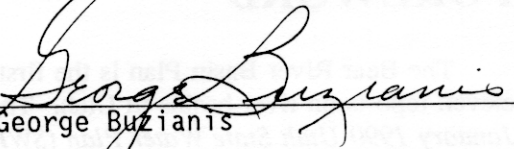
reserve the right to consider individual water projects on their own merits and may authorize a project which may not meet all the

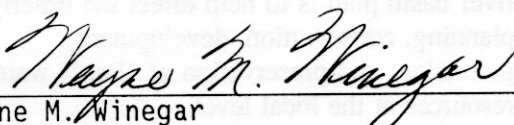
requirements of this plan. This basin plan is an important guide for water development in the Bear River Basin.

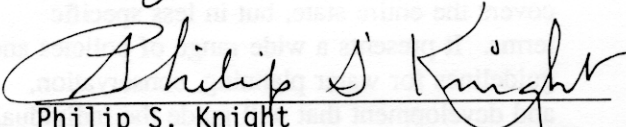

Clark J. Wall, Chairman

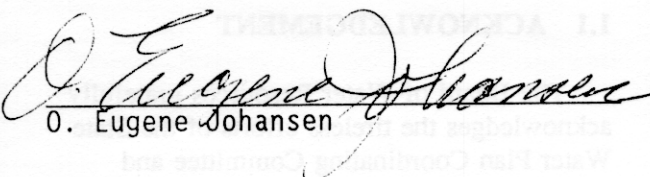

Clair C. Allen, Vice-Chairman

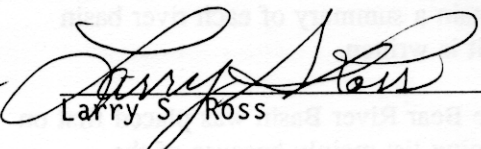

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1.2 ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

Many names, titles, programs, organizations, legislative acts, measurements, and activities are abbreviated to reduce the number of words and simplify communications. A few commonly used abbreviations in the Bear River Basin Plan are listed in this section.

1.2.1 Federal Agencies

ASCS	Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BR(USBR)	Bureau of Reclamation
Corps	Corps of Engineers
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
FS(USFGS)	Forest Service
FWS(USFWS)	Fish and Wildlife Service
GS(USGS)	Geological Survey
SCS	Soil Conservation Service

1.2.2 State and Local Organizations

BPAG	Basin Planning Advisory Group
BRWCD	Bear River Water Conservancy district

CEM	Comprehensive Emergency Management
DRC	Drought Response Committee
MCD	Multi-County Planning District
MWD	Metropolitan Water District
SLCWCD	Salt Lake County Water Conservancy District
UP&L	Utah Power and Light
USU	Utah State University
WBWCD	Weber Basin Water Conservancy District

1.2.3 Measurements

Ac	Acre
AF	Acre-feet
BOD	Biochemical Oxygen Demand
cfs	Cubic Feet per Second
Cu.Yd.	Cubic Yard
gpm	Gallon per Minute
kwh	Kilowatt Hour
MW	Megawatt
mg/l	Milligram per Liter
msl	Mean Sea Level
ph	Acidity
RVD	Recreation Visitor Day
TDS	Total Dissolved Solids
TSI	Tropic State Index
TSS	Total Suspended Solids
ug/l	Micrograms per Liter

1.2.4 Other

ATV	All-Terrain Vehicle
BMP	Best Management Practice
BMS	Best Management System
M&I	Municipal and Industrial
OM&R	Operation, Maintenance, and Replacement
RCC	Roller Compacted Concrete
WWTP	Wastewater Treatment Plant